



Agenda Date: 5/23/2006

Agenda Placement: 6C

NAPA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS Board Agenda Letter

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Sharon Bull for Ernie Loveless - Fire Chief
County Fire Department
REPORT BY: Sharon Bull, Staff Services Analyst, 967-1417
SUBJECT: Agreement for holiday weekend ambulance coverage at Lake Berryessa

RECOMMENDATION

County Fire Chief requests approval of and authorization for the Chair to sign an agreement with Piner's Napa Ambulance Service, Inc. for a maximum of \$17,150 for the term May 23, 2006 through September 4, 2006 for holiday weekend ambulance services at Lake Berryessa.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Summer holiday weekends at Lake Berryessa draw large crowds, creating a high volume of injuries and life-threatening situations. The traffic congestion and lane closures on Highway 121 could result in delays as long as 30 minutes for ambulance service. This agreement provides for on-site advanced life support ambulance coverage to the areas of Spanish Flat, Capell, Berryessa Highlands, and Marclay Cove during Memorial Day, Fourth of July, and Labor Day weekends.

FISCAL IMPACT

Is there a Fiscal Impact?	Yes
Is it currently budgeted?	No
What is the revenue source?	County Fire
Is it Mandatory or Discretionary?	Discretionary
Discretionary Justification:	Large holiday weekend crowds bring heavy traffic and additional injuries to the Lake. Highway 121 still has lane closures due to mud slides and there is no dedicated EMS aircraft at the lake this year. An onsite ambulance will save lives.
Is the general fund affected?	No

Future fiscal impact: The agreement spans both fiscal years but does not obligate the county to any future spending. Total cost of the agreement is \$17,150.

Consequences if not approved: Greatly increased response times for ambulance service.

Additional Information: None

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION: The proposed action is not a project as defined by 14 California Code of Regulations 15378 (State CEQA Guidelines) and therefore CEQA is not applicable.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION

Lake Berryessa ambulance response is served by two ambulance services. Angwin Ambulance provides a volunteer basic life support (BLS) response to the northern area of the Lake including the Putah Creek and Berryessa Park areas. Piner Ambulance provides an advanced life support (ALS) paramedic response to the areas of Spanish Flat, Capell, Berryessa Highlands and Marclay Cove. EMS aircraft may also be dispatched requested through Napa County Fire/CDF, Sheriff's, CHP or ambulance personnel.

In 1985 – 1992, a subsidy was available and the County and Piner Ambulance contracted to provide ALS paramedic services located at the lake staffed on weekends and holiday weekends between Memorial Day and Labor Day. The call volume at Lake Berryessa does not produce enough revenue to support ALS service without a subsidy.

County Fire and EMS have explored options to provide a higher level of medical care (peak times during holiday weekends) at Lake Berryessa. The following factors impact the EMS response and level of care provided to Lake Berryessa.

- | There is no dedicated EMS aircraft at Lake Berryessa this summer.
- | Road repair is on-going on Highway 121 due to mud slides. There is a minimum wait of 5 minutes due to one-lane traffic and traffic stop light at work site. This also applies to emergency vehicles. The delay could be as long as 30 minutes depending on traffic patterns.
- | Lake water levels are high with potential to draw larger crowds and recreational activity.

Piner Ambulance has agreed to provide a paramedic level EMS response on peak summer holiday weekends at Lake Berryessa for Memorial Day, 4th of July, and Labor Day.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

None

CEO Recommendation: Approve

Reviewed By: Andrew Carey